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The medical board is of opinion that cholera was epidemic during the week ended October 2, 1900. The opinion is based on the following grounds, noting, specially: (1) Whether the disease shows a tendency to increase or diminish. (2) How far this may be attributed to seasonal variations or other causes. (3) Whether the disease is confined to any particular quarter of the town or to any particular class of the population and whether these are in any direct local connection with the shipping and port. (4) Whether the disease shows general epidemic tendency to attack all classes alike. Cholera must still be considered mildly epidemic though the mortality has declined. There were 8 attacks more and 10 deaths less than the previous week. Cases have been reported from 22 out of 33 districts. The Hindus suffer most. There was no case among the European population. The harbor has not been affected. There were 3 deaths from native craft. The cause is due to climatic changes and poverty. It shows a tendency to decline.

Plague is still epidemic. There were 27 more attacks and 3 deaths less than last week.

Attached is a memorandum showing causes of 686 deaths recorded under all other diseases.

H. W. BOYD,
President of the Medical Board.
W. K. HATCH,
J. LEASK,
Members of the Medical Board.

ITALY.

Report from Naples.

NAPLES, ITALY, October 31, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended October 31, 1900, the following ships were inspected:

On October 25, the steamship *Spartan Prince*, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 601 steerage passengers and 259 pieces of large and 859 pieces of small baggage; 104 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam. There were also inspected 46 steerage passengers from Genoa.

On October 25, the steamship *Neustria*, of the Fabre Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 416 steerage passengers and 104 pieces of large and 376 pieces of small baggage; 63 pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

On October 26, the steamship *Ems* of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 702 steerage passengers and 250 pieces of large and 850 pieces of small baggage. One hundred and seventy pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam. There were also inspected 85 steerage passengers from Genoa.

On October 26, the steamship *Llanover* bound in ballast from New Orleans.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER.
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

MEXICO.

Report from Vera Cruz.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, November 4, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended November 3, 1900:

From yellow fever there were reported 11 cases and 12 deaths. There were no cases or deaths reported from smallpox. The mortality from all causes was 45.

A norther has been blowing for the past four days and there has been a decided drop in the temperature. This atmospheric condition is undoubtedly the cause of the mortality being higher than the number of cases. These northers are the nearest approach to a frost that the climatic conditions of this section will produce, and they are just as sure to put an end to the yellow-fever epidemic as a frost in the Southern States. I do not mean that the northers put a stop to the yellow fever, for that is endemic, and every month of the year shows a few cases, but the disease ceases to be epidemic after a good norther.

The epidemic of 1880 that began in the fall was the exception to this rule, and the fever increased until there were 103 deaths in December. In January, 1881, the mortality dropped to 28, but from then it increased until it became next to the worst epidemic ever experienced in Vera Cruz.

The mortality during January and February is generally an indication of the severity of the disease during the following summer months. A large mortality during the winter is always followed by a severe epidemic in the summer.

During the week 6 vessels were inspected and issued bills of health, and 33 health certificates were issued to passengers for United States and Cuban ports.

The health condition of the shipping continues good, and the 1 case that appeared on board of a vessel has recovered, and will sail this week for the Continent.

Respectfully,

S. H. HODGSON,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

SCOTLAND.

Report from Glasgow.

GLASGOW, SCOTLAND, *October 30, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the transactions of the Service at this port for the week ended October 27, 1900. Eight vessels were inspected and received bills of health, and they carried 344 men in crews, 55 cabin and 45 steerage passengers and 43 cattlemen. Forty three pieces of baggage were inspected and 6 pieces disinfected. Three of the above vessels were bound for Canadian ports and 1 for a Cuban port.

The health of Glasgow and the surrounding suburbs remains good. There have been no further cases nor deaths from plague, and 4 patients have been discharged from hospital, leaving 10 still under treatment. There were 29 cases of smallpox in hospital last week and 2 deaths, 4 cases of typhus fever and 1 death. I am informed that there are always at this season of the year a number of cases of typhus in this city, which are thought to be imported from Ireland by the harvesters. Often no connection can be traced between cases occurring at the same time. The death rate for the week was 21 per 1,000, a slight increase over the preceding weeks.

Respectfully,

A. R. THOMAS,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.